

House Republican Press Release

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Caron Attends 2005 CSG Eastern Regional Conference



HARTFORD- State Representative Michael Caron (R-Danielson) was in attendance when the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference held its 2005 annual meeting in Montville Connecticut. The conference brought in over 300 senior state officials and corporate representatives from the ten member northeastern states from Maine to Delaware, as well as Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, some provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick

and Nova Scotia.

Held from July 25-28th, the conference focused on regional priorities such as climate change, mental health reform, military base closings, health coverage for the uninsured, and the future of Amtrak.

A wide range of commentators addressed the attendees, including Governor M. Jodi Rell, Dr. Frank Luntz, President, The Luntz Research Companies; Dr. Rodney Paige, former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education; Ronald Williams, President of Aetna Insurance; Congressman Robert Simmons; and Geno Auriemma, head coach of the University of Connecticut women's basketball team. World-renowned oceanographer Robert Ballard delivered a video broadcast from the Atlantic Ocean.

"This conference provided legislators who attended a unique opportunity to share ideas and interact with policy-makers from northeastern states, and other regions, and the stakeholders from those regions as well, to review some of the critical issues that we are all facing," said Representative Caron. "The free exchange of information and ideas, as well as examining different approaches to the same problems can have a critical and substantial benefit for all involved."

Representative Caron also noted that the choice by conference organizers to hold the event in Connecticut was an honor that should not be lost on Connecticut residents. "We were given a great opportunity to showcase the beauty of Connecticut, as well as many of the great attractions we have here," said Representative Caron. "We were all proud to show off our state during this event."

CSG /ERC is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, founded in 1937, serving legislative, executive, and judicial branch officials in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as the Eastern Canadian provinces of Nova Scotia, Quebec, and New Brunswick.

The mission of CSG/ERC is to provide a forum for new ideas; promote successful state policy innovations; advocate multi-jurisdictional problem solving; advocate regional interests at the federal level; offer leadership training and technical assistance; serve as a catalyst for public/private dialog; and forecast policy trends affecting the region.